

NEWSLETTER



*We do hope that everyone has had
an enjoyable Easter break.*

This is always such a wonderful time of year as nature springs back to life after the winter and we hope that you had the opportunity to enjoy spring in all its glory over the last two weeks. Continuing the theme of 'springing back' we're very happy to bring you further details of how school life at Swansfield is growing once again. Read on for details of our ongoing support for Ukraine, an update from our new FOSP committee with their plans for the summer term and information about Jubilee celebrations.

We are looking forward to our Year 4 and Year 6 residential visits later in the summer term and our Year 3 children will be attending the Countryside Day in June. In addition to this, we look forward to providing opportunities for all year

groups to have new experiences in the great outdoors beyond the school gates. It certainly is beginning to feel as though we are getting back to the wide reaching opportunities which have always made Swansfield a great place to be.

Please do remember that it's so important for children to have great attendance in the summer term as we complete the year's curriculum and carry out assessments. Whilst we continue to be so grateful for your support in keeping children at home to control the spread of Covid infection, can we please ask that in particular, you 'Stay in May' when thinking about family holidays as this is a crucial time for national assessments that must be completed.

Best wishes

Jenny Smith Anne-Marie Grimes

Jenny Smith and Anne Marie Grimes



Character Education UPDATE

Our Swansfield 3Cs have really taken off this term with all children knowing and remembering these all important words:

Curiosity Care Courage

Mrs Smith and Mrs Grimes have been so impressed with the children's contributions as we have explored these words in assembly. The children openly shared acts of care that have been shown to them by others in response to some fabulous pages from *The Boy, The Fox, The Mole and The Horse*. It was a special time as we reflected on small acts of care carried out instinctively by others which have had a lasting impact on us.

Together, we discovered that whilst we may never be called upon to display courage in the same way as the Ukrainian people are right now, we can be courageous everyday as we master something that we've been finding tricky for a while, take the first step to resolve a fall-out with a friend or choose the right thing to do when it's not

necessarily the easy thing to do!

We are lucky that our children at Swansfield love to be curious and take time and opportunity to discover more, investigate and ask questions each and every day!

The children have also been actively engaged in choosing the book characters that will represent our 3Cs on our road map. Just to give a little insight, *The Smartest Giant in Town* and *Bertie from The Butterfly Lion* are flying the flag for care, *The Paper Bag Princess* and *The Boy in The Dress* are leading the way for courage and *Hermione Granger* from *Harry Potter* and *The Snail from Snail and the Whale* are just two of our courageous role models. We will be sharing the full 3Cs road map with you in the second half of the summer term.



Attendance

So many children have had absences due to COVID or self-isolation over the past terms. It is hardly surprising that the whole school attendance is currently at 92.9% - our target is set at 96%. Some children have significantly lower attendance. We have given this a great deal of consideration and feel that it is essential that parents are notified when attendance is flagged up by the EWO in case other issues then surface and further support is needed to improve attendance.

If you receive one of these leaflets, please take time to read it. There is information about absence, lateness and holidays in term time.



Friends Update

At the end of March, we had a great turn out for our Friends AGM. First off, we want to say a massive thanks to the old committee who have had the most difficult few years during the pandemic, but kept persevering to keep the Friends of Swansfield going and raising money for our wonderful children.

A new committee has now been formed, consisting of Co-Chairs, **Kate Hughes** and **Tanya Thompson**, Secretary, **Hannah Crane**, and Treasurer, **Rachael Goodfellow**. It was great to get together in person and come up with some new ideas heading into the Summer Term.

We have two dates for your diaries:

FILM NIGHT
Friday 20th May

SUMMER FAIR
Saturday 9th July

More details will follow for both events in due course. We are very much looking forward to bringing lots of exciting events to the school for the children, and of course, raise lots of money in the process too!

We would love to see you all at our future events and if you want to help in any way or have any ideas for events please contact us through friendsofswansfield@gmail.com. Also, if you know anyone or are anyone who has a business in the area, we are always on the look out for donations to use at our fair or other events.

Many thanks, The Friends of Swansfield



A royal British bake off fit for the Queen!

As we approach the Queen's Jubilee, I thought it was only right to mark the occasion with a special competition which I know you will all love!

The design brief:

This half term I'm looking for budding chefs to design and make a special cake which celebrates the Queen's reign on the throne. The cake must have a royal feel and be a spectacular celebration cake.

Please remember the cakes must not contain nuts.

Please bring

your cakes into school in a named container so they can be judged on

**Wednesday
the 25th of May.**

Prizes will be given out at the end of the week for one lucky person in Early Years, Key stage 1 and Key stage 2.

To note:

The cakes won't be judged on taste. They will only be judged on appearance as we would like to take the cakes out into the local community (care homes etc) after judging so they can be enjoyed as a celebration.

*On your marks,
get set... bake!*

Miss Freeman



Swansfield Support for Ukraine

Through the weekly blog, we've kept you updated with our fund and awareness raising for Ukraine. This significant world event has affected us all deeply and our children have been no exception to this. The first spark came from Daisy in Maple Class who asked Mrs Smith and Mrs Grimes what we could do to help and our school response has grown from there. In Daisy's words,

"I wanted to help Ukraine because there is a war in it. So we've done fundraisers to help them get what they need. I'm very happy with how much we've raised from the cakes. We're planning on raising money as long as they need it."

Our first fund raising effort was a bake sale which we held on a sunny March Friday afternoon.

We were blown away by the generosity of our school community and **an amazing total of £1161.80 was raised.**

Our children were not satisfied at stopping with this and their organisation continues. Children brought a sponsor form home just before the Easter holiday and we are looking forward to some 'golden silence' on Thursday 28th April. Staff think they are going to enjoy this so much it could become a weekly event! We hope the children have enjoyed gathering sponsors and we look forward to sharing a new total with you very soon.

Meanwhile, the children are still busy decorating their classrooms with Ukrainian colours and there are plans to extend this to blue and yellow hearts on the school fence and on classroom doors. With the warmer weather on its way after the holidays the school council has decided on sunflower planting to bathe the school in some yellow (hopefully set against blue skies) and an awareness raising fun run.

Also in the pipeline, the children would like to learn about Ukrainian culture and host a book sale-watch this space!





Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

As a school, we are looking forward to celebrating this special national event.

As part of the town's celebrations, we were invited to decorate two corgis. This prestigious job fell to **Chestnut class** and our **Tic Toc Club**. **Mr Warburton** challenged Chestnut class to come up with corgi designs when we had our school closure day and the children got straight to work when they returned to the classroom.

The chosen design came mainly from **Daniel Casini** with some creative additions from **Charlie Hume** and **Abi Oliver**. Chestnut class are very proud of the finished corgi. Both



corgis will be part of the corgi trail at Alnwick Gardens over the Jubilee weekend.

In addition to this, the children have designed banners to be carried at the Jubilee parade

through Alnwick on Saturday 4th June.

Each school will have a winning banner and we look forward to letting you know who the Swansfield winner is.

We'll bring you more details of this parade when we get them.

Spring Term Awards

The Sylvia Elliott Progress Cup: Charlie Bell

Gold Certificates:

Annabelle Clements, Benjamin Rowley, Amara Jay Heathcote, Ayva Shiel, Wilfred Patten, James Bonnett, Katie Jones, Dan Bridgens, Primrose Shotton, Lexie Scott, Courtney Angus and Issac Wilson.

Congratulations to all our award winners!

DIARY DATES

Monday 2nd May	School closed - May Bank Holiday
Monday 9th May - Thursday 12th May	Y6 SATs Week
Friday 20th May	FOSP Film Night
Friday 27th May	School closes - Half term holiday
Monday 6th June	School reopens
Thursday 9th June	Y3 Countryside Day
Wednesday 22nd - Friday 24th June	Y6 Residential Visit
Monday 27th June	Jubilee Holiday
Wednesday 29th June	Infant Sports Day
Friday 1st July	Junior Sports Day
Wednesday 6th July	Roll- up Day
Saturday 9th July	FOSP Summer Fair
Wednesday 13th - Friday 15th July	Y4 Residential Visit
Friday 22nd July	School closes - Summer Holiday
Wednesday 7th September	School re-opens for the Autumn Term

Barter Books

Encouraging all our children to read is very important and to support this we have established an account at Barter Books. We use this account to fund prizes, support children who don't have access to many books at home and to encourage children to appreciate this unique organisation within our locality. Please consider whether you are able to donate books to support this initiative. If so, when you drop books off at Barter Books, please just ask the credit to be added to Swansfield Park Primary school's account.

Thank you!

Nut Free School

We have children in school with severe nut and sesame allergies.

These allergies are serious and cause a rapid and life threatening reaction known as anaphylaxis.

Please be mindful of this if you are preparing packed lunches for your child and please avoid including any nut products.

Our school kitchen doesn't use nuts or sesame in the preparation of meals.



Communications

We use many different ways to communicate with parents.



Keep up to date through the school website at:

www.swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk



Email the office at:

admin@swansfield.northumberland.sch.uk



Check the text messages received from **Teachers2Parents** - please ensure that the office have an up to date mobile number for you.



Read the Head Teacher's weekly blog

posted on the website and on Facebook every Monday for the very latest news.



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